

HAPPENINGS HIGHSTREET

HIGH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 2021

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757-562-3367

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NEWSLETTER STAFF

Rev. Ned Alderman, Pastor

Alice Shaffer, Administrative Assistant

Jane Kay, Editor

Navigating the Next Chapter of the Pandemic

The next chapter? The pandemic didn't come with a manual, book or set of instructions. We are figuring it out as we go. We are all doing the best we can to navigate these unchartered waters. We are all trying to make good, informed, logical decisions based on the information we are provided (and even that varies depending on your news source). And most importantly, we are trying to keep our family and friends safe and healthy. That includes our church family.

With prayerful discernment and in light of the <u>current CDC guidelines</u>, the HSUMC PRG team met August 18th and modified the Mitigation Plan created in June. The plan strongly recommends that everyone wear a mask in church until COVID cases in the area decline and until further notice. The PRG team will meet periodically to review the data and discuss. Copies of the revised plan can be found in the Narthex.

It is very difficult to make plans when you don't know what tomorrow brings. How do you create a newsletter when data and policies change daily? A couple of months ago, we were excited with the assumption that the pandemic was in the rear view mirror. We were able to shed our masks and start venturing out again. A resemblance of life—as we once knew it—was resuming!

Unfortunately, in the last few weeks, COVID cases have increased and we are once again facing uncertainty. This summer, High Street UMC found itself waiting for a pastor to start in September, volunteer roles have not been completely filled and attendance has been slow to rebound. Is it the summer slump? The pandemic? The absence of a pastor? A change in cultural values? Or all of the above?

We ask for your patience, understanding and flexibility!! Dates may change, events may be cancelled or postponed, activities may be eliminated, requirements may change and information may be late coming. We will do our best to keep you updated through emails, phone calls and social media.





At freshman orientation at Virginia Wesleyan College in 1980, Terre Ittner, an interpersonal relations expert, told the incoming class that the best way to make friends is to get people to talk about themselves. "We're all our own favorite subjects," she said, so if we want someone to like us, it's best to show an interest in them.

I think that this principle applies in evangelism as well, and evangelism is one of my passions. This may explain why I found one training day in Virginia Beach so meaningful a few years ago. At this training, Christa Springstead, who was then pastor of St. John's UMC in Norfolk, gave a message based on Jesus' telling the

disciples that, if they followed him, they would fish for people. "When," Christa asked in light of this text, "did it become about them coming to us rather than our going to them?"

That line has stuck with me ever since. I often repeated it during my last three years at Epworth UMC in Norfolk, where evangelism took on some interesting expressions. The church, at the corner of Freemason and Boush streets in downtown Norfolk, should be the envy of every church because of its location, according to my former DS, Wayne Snead. Epworth is surrounded on three sides by condos and apartments filled with young couples and retirees. It didn't take long to see that almost all of our neighbors had dogs, whom they walked regularly. This led us to offer Paws in Faith, a monthly worship service for people and their pets, and Coffee on the Porch, which took us to the sidewalks on Sunday mornings and sometimes on weekdays to offer coffee, water, and doughnuts to passersby. We got to know a lot of people, and dogs, and learned that Yvette, who worked next door, liked lemon-flavored water, which we tried to keep on hand, and to expect to talk about football and basketball with James and Terry, who worked for the City of Norfolk. We also began to invite speakers on topics such as environmental ministry, Appalachian missions, and police chaplaincy to Paws in Faith. Meaningful connections were made as we went out and met our neighbors.

I look forward to learning what evangelism looks like in Franklin. I look forward to worshipping, witnessing, serving, and studying with you, and getting to know you through events that I read about in the last newsletter, including the Relay for Life, the worship service and picnic at the Bronco Club, the UMM breakfast, and the Men's Bible study. I'll go ahead and mention the F3 Nation workouts again, too, because I am pretty excited about those.

Grace to you, and peace, Ned Alderman





Sunday, September 19, 2021 at the Bronco Club Save the Date & Stay Tuned for More Details



Backpack Program for Children at local S.P. Morton Elementary School

We have been supporting the Backpack Feeding Program for 50 food insecure children at S.P. Morton Elementary School in Franklin for the past 8 years, I believe. Each year we raise the money to sponsor these 50 children, and then we pack bags of food delivered from the Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia each month and take them to the school where they are sent home with these children twice a month. Last year, because of COVID, we were unable to actually pack the bags of food and take them to the school, but we remained a faithful and giving partner to these children by maintaining our financial commitment. The Food Bank took care of the food part at their facility in Norfolk and then delivered

the bags to the school. From there the bus drivers and other school personnel delivered these backpacks of food to the children's homes. It definitely took a village, but the program was able to continue. Thank you for your support in this vital hunger-relief program.

Now for the good news!! We are going to be able to go back to our normal way of operating our Backpack Program beginning in late September/early October. In order to do this we need some help in several ways:

- 1. We need financial sponsors for each child <u>\$110.00</u> for the year or you can just make a donation of any amount to the Backpack Program. Please make checks out to HSUMC and put "Backpack Program" on the memo line.
- 2. We need volunteers to help pack the bags of food. We have been doing this once a month on a Tuesday starting at 5:00 p.m. I'm not sure if this will be the time and day again this year. I will let you know as soon as I get more information from the Food Bank. The packing usually takes about an hour. I'm asking you if you're interested in helping with the packing to let me know. You can call me (569-9449), call the church office (562-3367), email the church office (hsumc@beldar.com), or sign up in the narthex on the Backpack volunteer list on the round table. Please leave the best way to contact you when you sign up. We are going to be very careful for our packing sessions with social distancing, masking, and perhaps a little different way of packing as long as the current COVID conditions prevail.
- 3. I also need a few volunteers to be available to help check in and put away the food when it is delivered to church once a month. This requires some lifting. Also, there is a need to deliver the boxes of the bags of food after assembling them to the school twice a month. This requires lifting boxes as well.

I know this is a lot of information, but since we haven't done this in a while and we might have some new people, I felt I should include everything. Thank you for your support of this vital program.

Ruthie Ponder Backpack Program Coordinator 569-9449





Our Sincere Sympathy to:

Paul Shaffer and family on the loss of his father, Arthur G. Shaffer



Thank you to **Walker Gillette** for pruning the trees and protecting the columns (ALL 54) from bird nests with wood wedges (he personally carved and painted).

Thank you to **Richard Walker** and **John Bryant** for promptly responding to emails and phone calls for pleas of help with many building maintenance issues.

Thank you to all of our "weeders" for working in the extreme summer heat to keep the church grounds looking good.



You are <u>all</u> a blessing to High Street UMC and we appreciate you!

NEEDED: Addresses for College Students!!

Please contact the church office at 562-3367 or hsumc@beldar.com with the mailing address of your college student. Please call even to let us know that your student's address has not changed from last year.





United Methodist Men (UMM)

United Methodist Men are meeting again! All men are invited to attend the next meeting and fellowship opportunity on Saturday, **September 18th** at **8:00 am** at the church. We look forward to seeing you!



Food Items for the Franklin Cooperative Ministries

The Mission Team will be collecting boxes of Saltine Crackers and Canned Spaghetti Sauce for the Franklin Cooperative Ministries for the month of September. Please leave your food items in one of the baskets in the narthex or in the hallway outside the church office. Thanks so much!!





Many Thanks - Many People

The summer is nearly over. It has been a unique one for God's church called High Street. We have completed a 10 week stent between pastors. We have appreciated Pastor Ned's phone calls recently to help in preparation for his arrival. We have had 10 weeks of sermons by laity and different pastors. Thanks to Harlan, Taylor, Jim, Jay Carey and Greg West. We have also had a postponement of our Vacation Bible School due to COVID. Thanks to Marie Smith and her team for all the preparation that went into this. And now we are facing a surge of COVID in our community.

In the midst of it all, however, we have affirmed our being a family of faith. We have heard inspirational and challenging messages from our pulpit. Thanks to Alice, we have crossed our t's and dotted our i's. We have paid our obligations, thanks to Jennifer and our supportive church family. Individually and collectively, we have prayed for our church, our community, our new pastor, and our world.

Our "healthy church team" has reconvened to point us in the correct direction for the safety of our church family and community. They will meet regularly in the coming months as conditions change.

Our music program continues to create worshipful music which challenges us and is soothing to God's ears. Thanks to Cary and Mike and our many talented musicians.

The parsonage committee has made necessary preparations in the parsonage for Ned Alderman's arrival. Thanks to Ann Jervey, Meredith Wrenn and their team. Thanks also to the United Methodist Men, especially Don Spengeman and Mike Wrenn for their hard work.

There is much to be done, but High Streeters have never been afraid of hard work. Listen out for opportunities to serve as we move into the fall.

Thanks to all who have served and those who have participated in worship either in person or online. Please come to worship. It is still a wonderful place to be.

Quite sincerely, Mike Ponder Lay Leader



High Street UMC has started a ministry for men called F3 which stands for Faith, Fellowship, and Fitness. On Saturday mornings at 8am, the men gather outside at High Street UMC to workout, hangout, and build a circle of trust based on our faith in Jesus

Christ. This is a "work at your own pace" group where no one will judge how many or how long you can do an exercise. To learn more about F3, go to https://f3nation.com/

Yoga is for everyone!

If you are interested in learning more about breathing techniques, meditation, stretches and ways to reduce stress and tension, join me on Tuesdays and Thursday evenings at 6pm (requires getting up and down from the floor) or a chair yoga class on Wednesday mornings at 10am. Listen to your body and

make decisions "off your mat" based on what you learn "on your mat." Classes are in the Fellowship Hall.

For more information and to get on my email list to receive the schedule for each month, contact Jane Riddick-Fries at 757-653-9118 or jfries@feridies.com.





THANK YOU to **ALL** who lead the worship services and delivered meaningful messages to the congregation this summer. We appreciate you sharing your time and talents with HSUMC!



Jim Yarborough



Harlan Lewis

Not Pictured But We Are Equally Grateful to: Taylor Williams & Rev. Greg West



Dr. Mike Ponder



Rev. Jay Carey, District Superintendent

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More Volunteers from Summer Worship Services



Jim Jervey



Emily Wrenn



Mike Pollard



Judy Belcher



Gaynelle Riddick



Galen Butler



Maxine Hollowell



Cara Butler









Lay Minister Volunteers Needed!

HSUMC Needs YOU—Lay Minister VOLUNTEERS!

Lay readers (8:30 & 11am)
Greeters (8:30 & 11am)
Ushers (11am)
Acolytes (11am)
Chancel members
Open Door Café Hosts
Sunday School Teachers
Nursery Attendants
A/V Team Members

Please contact the church office (562-3367 or hsumc@beldar.com) or fill out the form on the bulletin if you are willing to perform any of these lay minister activities. Your help is greatly appreciated and needed to help the services run smoothly each Sunday.

2021-2022 CHOIR SEASON BEGINS



Choir Rehearsals Resume

The new choir season will begin shortly for all choir members and potential new members. We are so excited to get back together after all we have endured due to COVID-19. We have all seen the changes and endured much...some much more than others, but we are looking forward to getting back together to make beautiful

praise for our God and King. Choir practice will begin **Thursday night**, **September 2** at 7 P.M. The choir will sing on Sunday, September 12th to begin the new season. If you are interested in joining our musical family, please mark your calendars. For more information, contact Mike Pollard at 757-377-1900, or Cary Kirkland at 757-6478543. See you soon!!

Sunday School Classes

Susan Holloway continues to faithfully lead the Friendship Bible Study Class in the Parlor on Sundays starting at 9:45am. You can join Jim Jervey for Coffee and Conversation in the Café area around 10am. Dr. Mike Ponder has resumed the Dave Trader Class upstairs which is always a fan favorite. The Children have been meeting all summer during the 11am service, but will be making changes to the schedule soon. The Children will not have class on Sunday, September 5th (Labor Day Weekend) or September 19th (Bronco Club Sunday), but we invite the children to join us on Sunday, September 12th at 11am. This will be the last time the Children will meet at 11am. We plan to resume our normal time of 9:45am on Sunday, September 26th.

We appreciate your patience and ask that you stay tuned for more details about the children, youth and adult Sunday School classes as they resume this Fall. If you would like to teach Sunday school, please fill out the side tab of the bulletin & place in the offering plate or sign up on the sheets on the round table in the Narthex. Thank you!



Update on the Wings of Caring Aviation Ministry in The Democratic Republic of the Congo

We had heard a while back that the missionary whom we sponsor, Jacques Akasa Umembudi, was going to retire. Our church has been supporting him and his ministry for many years (at least 25) as a missionary through the United Methodist Global Board of Ministries with the "Wings of Caring Aviation Ministry in the DRC in Africa. I was finally able to catch up with him via email recently to find out his plans and the status of this vital ministry. We send between \$2,000 and \$2500 every year to help fund this program. We raise this money each year through our Tree of Stars during the Advent season and our Lenten Cross of butterflies in the spring. Below is his response to my email. We will be sending our donation this fall. It is good to know that he is continuing in his position until a replacement can be found. Please keep Jacques, his family, and the people who he serves in your payers.

Dear Ruthie Ponder/Brothers and Sisters in Christ of High Street UMC in Franklin, VA,

Greetings in His name from Kinshasa/the Democratic Republic of Congo. I pray that this email finds each of you in healthy conditions. Yes, we all went through a very tough time of COVID 19 but despite the pandemic, the Lord has protected us; we are so grateful.

We surely have retired as GBGM personnel (active missionaries) but, the local church along with GBGM have asked me if I could continue to serve until a new pilot mechanic is found. As you know this program of rescuing people in need especially for medical urgencies, is very important. So, I accepted to continue serving our church as pilot mechanic until a replacement is found. In our agenda, I was supposed to itenarate and speak to our different supporting churches about our retirement and seek their continuing support to the Wings of Caring Aviation Ministry. But, the COVID came and we couldn't do anything. However, God willing, we might be able to meet physically again with you and share Good news of our Lord through our Aviation Ministry.

Please continue to support Wings of Caring Aviation Ministry. You are the one who make this program alive with your support (prayers, donations and services). When we fly a patient to the hospital to get medical attention, we always tell him about people who love him even that he has not seen them yet. And he must feel blessed because these people have already paid for his transportation to the hospital. You make a difference in many people lives.

Once again thank for all support to Central Congo Wings of Caring Aviation Ministry.

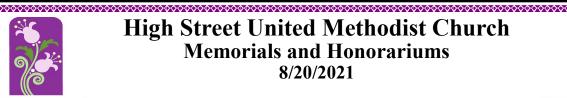
Jacques Umembudi Akasa (Retired Missionary) Central Congo Wings of Caring Aviation Ministry.

RELAY FOR LIFE

The American Cancer Society will be holding the Relay for Life Luminaria Event (only) this year on **September 18, 2021 from 6-9 PM at Barrett's Landing in Franklin.** High Street UMC will not have a "team" but if you would like to help collect Luminary Forms & Donations, please contact Glenda Jervey (757-617-9740 or bluedvl@verizon.net) as she would love the assistance. Luminary forms can be found in the Narthex and by the church office window.







High Street United Methodist Church Memorials and Honorariums 8/20/2021



Memorials

In Loving Memory of:

Benjamin Stuart Vincent

Mr. and Mrs. Fred D. Hollowell by: Mr. and Mrs. William C. Duffy, Jr.

Mr. Joseph Warren Hutt, Jr.

Mrs. Jean M. Trader

Dr. and Mrs. C.L. Powell, Jr. T. Edgar and Zizi C. Sipe

Ann and Ken Penrose and Lynn Mackey

Adeline Ashenfelter

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by: Marjorie Peele Mike Peele

Health Care and Assisted Living Facilities

Please remember our members who need special care at the following healthcare and assisted living facilities in your thoughts and prayers each week.

Village At Woods Edge

(Memory Care Unit) 1401 N High Street, Franklin, Virginia 23851 757.562.3100

Nancy Raiford (Room 10) Joan Marks (Room 08)

Manor At Wood's Edge

(Assisted Living) 1401 N. High Street Franklin, Virginia 23851 757.562.3100

Linda Jovner (Rm 1011) Barbara Prince (Rm 1006)

Village At Woods Edge

(Independent Living) 1401 N High Street, Franklin, Virginia 23851 757.562.3100

Peggy Gillette (Apt. 312) Al Strickler (Apt. 308) Marjorie Whitley (Apt. 314) Mildred Mason (Apt. 117)

East Pavilion

(Nursing Home) 100 Fairview Drive Franklin, Virginia 23851 757.569.6424 Doris Bailey (Rm 114A)

There are times when each of us could use a word of encouragement, a prayer or just a little note to say "hello - I am thinking about you!" Please keep **Dianne Burns** in your thoughts and prayers and let her know you are thinking about her by sending a card. She has been in a rehabilitation center in Hampton for over a month. Her address is:

> Dianne Burns Northampton Convalescent & Rehabilitation Center 1028 Topping Lane Hampton, VA 23666





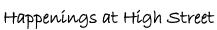
- John Bryant
- Jeremy McPhillips 2 2 3 3
- Elsie Holloman
- Charles Martin
- Harlan Lewis, Jr.
- 3 Pat Marks
- 3 Joey Reesman, V
- 4 Cheryl Hansford
- 4 Jim Hart
- 4 Jeff Moulden
- 4 Alison Stutts
- 4 Katie Bryant
- 4 **David Santoro**
- 5 Margaret Mackan
- 5 Reagan Bradshaw
- 6 Julie Branch
- Kristy Aiken 6
- 6 Anne Watts
- 7 Diane Jervey
- 7 James Gillette
- 8 Phil Doughtie
- 8 Hugh Hassell
- 9 Gaylord Ambrose
- 9 Barbara Napier
- 9 Cindy Moore
- 9 Ken Burgess
- 9 Laura Duke
- 9 Forrest Hart
- 10 Elaine Webb
- 10 Isabella Dongarra
- 10 Zack Duke
- 12 Linda Joyner
- 12 Marc Waller, Jr.
- 12 Ellen Rhodes
- Richard Cox, III 14
- 14 Ann Stutts
- 15 Judy Bailey
- 15 Becky Moulden
- Declan Richard 15



- Jackie Green 16
- 17 Zachery Barnes
- 17 Jordan Belle Tawney
- 17 James Randall
- 18 Paul Conco
- Randy Peele 18
- 18 Kay Joyner
- 19 Bryce Powell
- 20 J. P. Whitley, Jr.
- 20 Tony Barto
- 20 Wade Draughn
- 21 Sanford Belcher
- 22 Susan Reaves

23

- Jane Puckett
- 23 Kim Rhodes
- 23 Amy Phillips
- 23 Virginia Hassell 24 Rebecca Harper
- 25 Carl Saunders
- 25 Lydia Jones
- 26 Cathi Bidwell
- 26 Lynne Rabil
- 26 Carey Evans
- Dominic Ashburn 26
- 26 Julian Ashburn
- 26 Allison Smith
- 27 Witt Harper
- 28 Scott Belcher
- 28 Jacob Geary
- 29 Gretchen Hopkins
- 29 TeDra Flanders
- 29 Zachary Wright
- 29 Adeline Williams
- 30 Charlie Eitel, Jr.
- 30 Steven Malik
- 30 Debbie Doughtie
- 30 Mike Newton
- 30 Annabelle Martin







SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS

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	September 5	September 12	September 19	September 26
Acolytes	Available	Zach Duke	Bronco Club Sunday	Available
Chancel	Alice Shaffer	Glenda Jervey	Alice Shaffer	Glenda Jervey
Flowers	John & Carolyn Bryant	Available	Ray & Linda Maya	Kent & Jennifer Stephenson
Greeters – 8:30				
Greeters—11:00	Available	Available	Bronco Club Sunday	Available
Lay Readers – 8:30	Mike Ponder	Harlan Lewis	Bronco Club Sunday	Susan Holloway
Lay Readers – 11:00	Judy Belcher	Anne Williams	Bronco Club Sunday	Jennifer Stephenson
Open Door Café	Temporarily Suspended	Temporarily Suspended	Temporarily Suspended	Temporarily Suspended
Ushers – 8:30				
Ushers – 11:00	Marc Waller, Head Usher Billy Smith Brian Jones			

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Bulletin Info Deadline 10:00 AM Chair Yoga/ Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Yoga/ Fellowship Hall	Restaurant 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice	3 Fellowship Hall reserved by GLA	4 8:00 AM F3 Nation/Outside
5 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service 9:30 AM Open Door Café (temporarily suspended) 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service	LABOR Day Church Office Closed	Fellowship Hall	10:00 AM Chair Yoga/ Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Communications	9 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study/Fred's Restaurant 6:00 PM Yoga/ Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice	10	11 8:00 AM F3 Nation/Outside
12 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service 9:30 AM Open Door Café (temporarily suspended) 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service	Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting/Scout Shack (tentative) 7:00 PM Church	14 8:30 AM Prayer Group Meeting/Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Yoga/ Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Boy Scout Meeting/Scout Shack	15 Bulletin Info Deadline 10:00 AM Chair Yoga/ Fellowship Hall	16 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study/Fred's Restaurant 6:00 PM Yoga/ Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice	17	18 8:00 AM F3 Nation/Outside 8:00 AM UMM Breakfast & Meeting/ Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Relay for Life Luminaria Event/ Barrett's Landing
19 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service (tentative) Annual Worship Service & Picnic at the Bronco Club	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:00 PM Girl Scout Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scout	21 6:00 PM Yoga/ Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Book Club/ Library 7:00 PM Boy Scout Meeting/Scout Shack	22 Bulletin Info Deadline 10:00 AM Chair Yoga/ Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Yoga/ Fellowship Hall	7:00 AM Men's Bible Study/Fred's Restaurant 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice	24	25 8:00 AM F3 Nation/Outside
26 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service 9:30 AM Open Door Café (temporarily suspended) 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service	6:00 PM Girl Scout Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting/Scout Shack		29 Bulletin Info Deadline	30 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study/Fred's Restaurant 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice Meet For- Breakfast		

Our Mission at **H**igh **S**treet **U**nited **M**ethodist **C**hurch

